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FUGITIVE JACK DAVIS CARTER ARRESTED IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA AND RETURNED TO FRESNO TO FACE INTERNET SEX CRIME INDICTMENT

FRESNO -- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JACK DAVIS CARTER, 47, of Houston, Texas was returned to Fresno on August 30, 2005 from Jakarta, Indonesia to face a federal charge of using the Internet to attempt to persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexual activity. A grand jury in Fresno returned an indictment against CARTER on October 28, 2004, and a no-bail arrest warrant had been outstanding for him since that time. The indictment alleges that CARTER used the Internet from approximately November 18, 2003, through December 5, 2003, in an attempt to meet a minor for purposes of engaging in sexual activity. CARTER was arraigned September 14, 2005 by a federal magistrate in Fresno, and he will make his first appearance in district court on October 3, 2005, before the Honorable Oliver W. Wanger.

CARTER's return to the United States was the culmination of an extensive international search coordinated by the United States Marshals Service and the Central Valley Joint Fugitive Task Force based in Fresno. The task force has participants from the California Department of Corrections, the California Youth Authority, the Fresno Police Department, the Fresno County Sheriff's Department, and the Fresno County District Attorney's Office Investigations Unit.

United States Attorney McGregor Scott thanked the Marshals Service, and the Task Force, for making CARTER's apprehension and return to Fresno a high priority, and he praised the outstanding work done to bring CARTER to justice. Scott stated: "The message cannot be any more clear: if an offender is prosecuted for attempting to sexually exploit a child or attempts to evade justice, we will not rest until he or she is found." Scott noted that while CARTER was the defendant brought the greatest distance for prosecution in Fresno, the Fresno branch of the United States Attorney's Office has prosecuted almost fifty defendants during the past year for Internet-based crimes involving the actual or attempted sexual exploitation of children. Some of the other defendants were residents of Pennsylvania, Georgia, Texas, Arizona, and numerous cities throughout California.

Scott also acknowledged the many agencies who contributed assistance in securing CARTER's return to Fresno. The list includes the following Marshals Service field offices: Dayton, Ohio; Austin, Texas; Wilmington, North Carolina; and the district office in Guam. The

agency's Investigative Services Division, Financial Surveillance Unit, and Office of International Affairs also provided key assistance. The Marshals Service received help from the Federal Bureau of Investigation field office in Wilmington, North Carolina, and a North Carolina state probation office. Assistance was also provided by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, the agency responsible for initially arresting CARTER after he traveled from Houston, Texas to California during commission of the underlying offense, and the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Fresno.

CARTER was also sought by the Texas Attorney General's Office, Cyber Crimes Unit. According to information provided by that office, between November and December 2003 CARTER used the Internet to arrange a meeting for sex with a person he believed to be a 14-year-old girl, but who was actually an undercover investigator. The Harris County District Attorney's Office in Houston on June 3, 2004, obtained an indictment against CARTER for criminal solicitation of a child, a third-degree felony in Texas, with a punishment ranging from two to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Texas State Attorney General Abbott stated upon learning of CARTER's arrest in Indonesia: "I want to express my appreciation to California, United States, and Indonesian officials for their work in bringing this man to justice. This cooperative effort shows our shared commitment to make our communities safe for children."

The United States and Indonesia do not have an extradition treaty. As a result, the United States Department of Justice, Office of International Affairs, INTERPOL, and the U.S. State Department played integral roles in coordinating CARTER's return to the United States. Once CARTER was located in Jakarta, United States officials worked with Indonesian authorities who arrested him and deported him from that country to Guam. From there, the Marshals Service secured his return to Fresno.

According to Assistant United States Attorney David Gappa, who is prosecuting the case, if convicted under federal law for using the Internet to attempt to persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexual activity, there is a minimum term of five years imprisonment. The maximum penalties include a thirty-year term of imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, a five-year term of supervised release, and a mandatory penalty assessment.

A charge in an indictment is only an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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